



EXPEDITED PROCEDURE
ART UNIT 1731

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Frank Filser et al. Confirmation No.: 1826
Serial No. : 09/623,268
Filed : August 30, 2000
TC/A.U. : 1731
Examiner : J. M. Hoffmann

Docket No. : 00-497
Customer No. : 34704

Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313

AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. 1.116

Sir:

In response to the Office action dated January 10, 2005, having a shortened statutory period for response set to expire April 10, 2005, having been extended for two months so as to expire on June 10, 2005, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

Amendments to the Specification begin on Page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 3 of this paper.

Remarks/Arguments begin on Page 10 of this paper.